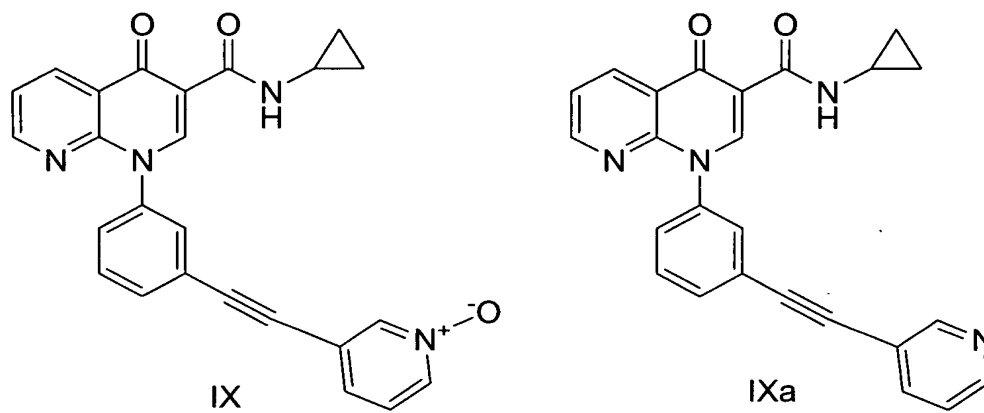


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

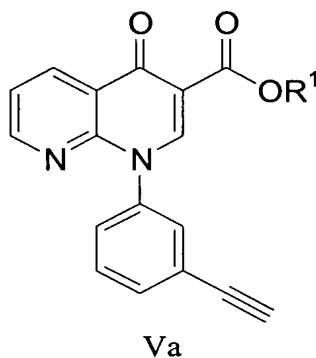
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application.

1 (Currently Amended). A method of preparing a compound of preparing a compound of the formula IX and Formula IXa:



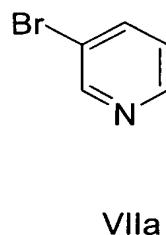
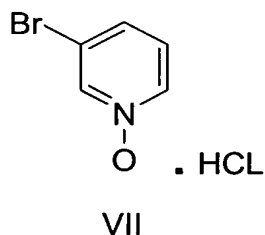
comprising

Step C: reacting, in solvent A, a compound of Formula Va

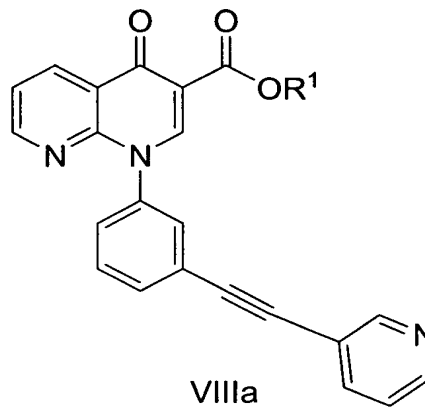
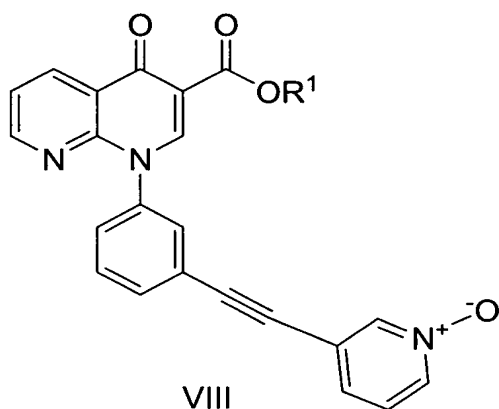


wherein

$-OR^1$ is a suitable leaving group selected from the group consisting of C_{1-8} alkyl, aryl, and heteroaryl; optionally substituted with aryl and/or C_{1-8} alkyl,
solvent A is dimethylaminoacetamide, dimethylformamide, acetonitrile, DMSO, methylacetamide, ethers or mixtures thereof,
with a compound of Formula VII or Formula VIIa

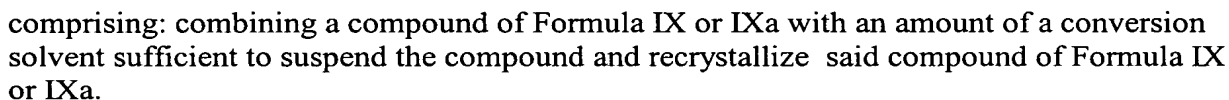


in the presence of a palladium catalyst and a phosphine ligand in amine base to yield a compound of Formula VIII or Formula VIIIa



Step D: reacting, in solvent B, a compound of Formula VIII or VIIIa with cyclopropylamine optionally in the presence of a catalyst to yield a compound of Formula IX or IXa.

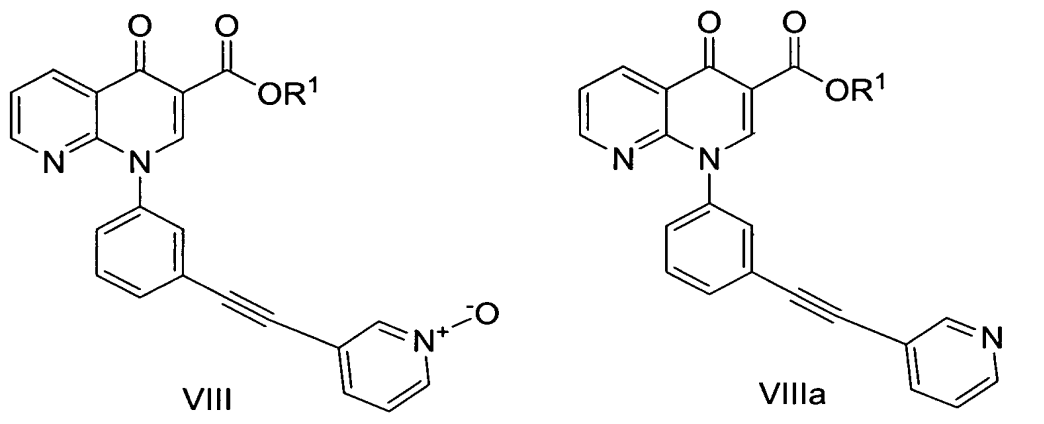
2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the phosphine ligand is $P(C_{1-6}alkyl)$.
3. A method according to claim 1 wherein the palladium catalyst is selected from the group consisting of , the palladium catalyst selected from $P(t-butyl)_3-Pd-P(t-butyl)_3$, $[PdCl(allyl)]_2$, $Pd_2(dba)_3$, and $[P(t-butyl)_3PdBr]_2$.
4. A method according to claim 1 wherein the molar ratio of the compound of Formula Va to Formula VII or VIIa is approximately 1:1.5 to 1.5 to 1.
5. A method according to claim 1 wherein the ratio of molar equivalents of amine base per mole of compound of Formula VII or VIIa is 2:1 to 3.5:1.
6. A method according to claim 1 wherein the molar ratio of Palladium catalyst to compound of Formula Va is 0.05:1 to 0.10:1.
7. A method according to claim 1 wherein step C is carried out at 40 to 70°C.



17. A method according to claim 16, wherein the conversion solvent is selected from dimethylformamide, dimethylacetamide, N-methylpyrrolidinone and C1-4alkanol.

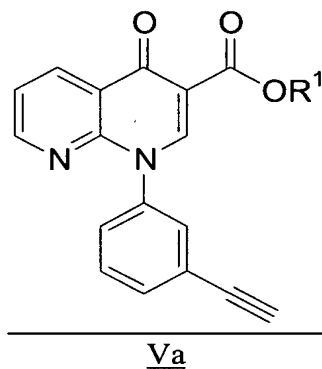
18. A method according to claim 17, wherein the conversion solvent has a water content of less than 5%.

19(New). A method of preparing a compound of preparing a compound of the formula VIII and Formula VIIIa:



comprising

Step C: reacting, in solvent A, a compound of Formula Va

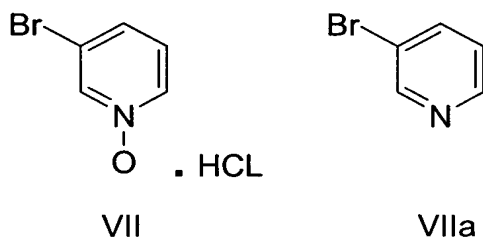


wherein

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₈ alkyl, aryl, and heteroaryl; optionally substituted with aryl and/or C₁₋₈ alkyl,

solvent A is dimethylaminoacetamide, dimethylformamide, acetonitrile, DMSO, methylacetamide, ethers or mixtures thereof;

with a compound of Formula VII or Formula VIIa



in the presence of a palladium catalyst and a phosphine ligand in amine base to yield a compound of Formula VIII or Formula VIIa.

20(New). A method according to claim 19 wherein the phosphine ligand is P(C₁₋₆alkyl) and the palladium catalyst is selected from the group consisting of, the palladium catalyst selected from P(t-butyl)₃-Pd-P(t-butyl)₃, [PdCl(allyl)]₂, Pd₂(dba)₃, and [P(t-butyl)₃PdBr]₂.